

BEFORE THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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SHA BRADY,  
Charging Party

-v-

EDIBLE ARRANGEMENTS, STORE #1530  
AND TOM PARTISS,  
Respondent

HRB CASE NO. 0151017343 &  
0151017344

FINAL AGENCY DECISION

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Charging Party, Sha Brady (Brady), filed a complaint with the Department of Labor and Industry (Department) alleging discrimination in employment on the basis of race, color and sex. Following an informal investigation, the Department determined that a preponderance of the evidence did not support Brady's allegations that Respondent, Edible Arrangements, Store #1530 and Tom Partiss, discriminated against Brady. The Department issued a Notice of Dismissal. Brady filed an objection with the Montana Human Rights Commission (Commission). The Commission considered the matter on November 20, 2015. No oral argument was requested for this hearing.

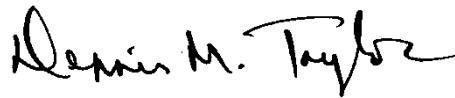
The Commission reviews a decision of the Department to dismiss a complaint using an abuse of discretion standard. *Section 49-2-511(2), MCA*. After careful consideration, the Commission concludes the determination of the Department to dismiss the complaint in this case is not an abuse of discretion.

If a charging party chooses to commence a civil action in district court, the charging party has 90 days after the date this order is issued to file a complaint in district court, in the district where the alleged violation occurred, and seek appropriate relief. *Section 49-2-511(3)(a), MCA*. If a charging party fails to commence a civil action within 90 days, the claims are time barred. *Id.*

Alternatively, a party may ask a district court to review the decision of the Commission to affirm the dismissal of a complaint. *Sections 2-4-702 and 49-2-511(3)(b), MCA.* This review must be requested within 30 days of the date of this order. A party must promptly serve copies of a petition for judicial review upon the Human Rights Commission and all parties of record. *Section 2-4-702(2), MCA.*

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Sha Brady's objection is **overruled**. The Commission affirms the determination of the Human Rights Bureau to dismiss the complaint against Edible Arrangements, Store #1530 and Tom Partiss.

DATED this 23rd day of November, 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dennis M. Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

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Dennis M. Taylor, Chair  
Human Rights Commission

### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned secretary for the Human Rights Commission certifies that a true and correct copy of the foregoing ORDER was mailed to the following by U.S. Mail, postage prepaid, on this 23rd day of November, 2015.

SHA BRADY  
2602 LILY DRIVE  
BOZEMAN, MT 59718

THOMAS PARTISS  
EDIBLE ARRANGEMENTS  
2051 WEST OAK STREET, SUITE 3  
BOZEMAN, MT 59718



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Annah Howard, Legal Secretary  
Montana Human Rights Bureau